



File Code: 2210; 2230
Date: June 21, 2015

Steve Lucas
Lucas Livestock 7HL Ranch LLC
3300 East Feedlot Rd.
Winnemucca, NV 89445

Dear Steve,

The following letter will document your meeting with Boyd Hatch, on May 13, 2015 and will serve as your Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) for the 2015 summer grazing season. The District Ranger must approve any changes to this AOI.

The grazing system on this allotment is rest and a deferred rotation. Utilization is sets the criteria on moving your livestock, the scheduled dates of use are flexible. If utilization levels are about to be reached prior to these dates, livestock need to be moved to the next unit or off the Forest to keep from exceeding utilization. The District Ranger must approve any changes in the planned use.

**BUTTERMILK C&H
PERMITTED USE**

Permittee	Class	Number	Season
Lucas Livestock	c/c	563	5/22 - 9/30
Vacant (Partial Fill with Peter and Kathi Marvel)	c/c	1098 (260)	5/22 - 9/30

AUTHORIZED USE

Permittee	Class	Number	Season
Lucas Livestock	c/c	440	5/22 - 9/30
Marvel	c/c	260	5/22 - 9/30

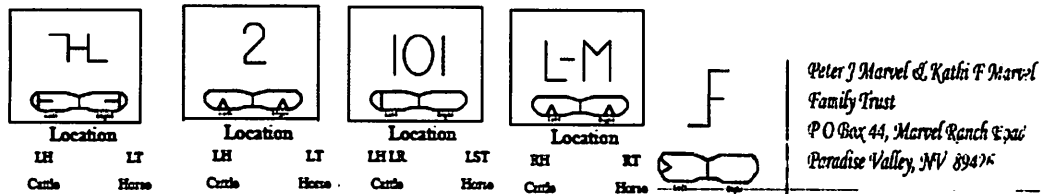
Lucas livestock is taking resource protection non-use with 123 cc pairs.

**BUTTERMILK C&H
AUTHORIZED USE**

UNITS	Class and #'s		Season
Spring City	C/C	700	5/22 – 6/24
Black Ridge	C/C	700	6/25 – 7/20
Buttermilk	C/C	700	7/21 – 8/30 (9/30)
*Lye Creek	C/C	700	9/1 – 9/30
Lye Creek	Rest but may be authorized to be used.		
Buttermilk Meadows	No Livestock Will Be Authorized		

*Lye Creek may be rested this year, but due to the drought in order to have better distribution of livestock it may be authorized to be used if requested.



Permitted Livestock Brands:**COMPLIANCE:**

This AOI is made part of your grazing permit consistent with Part 1, item 3 and Part 2, Item 8(a). The scheduled dates of use are flexible but a one-week notice must be given before any changes are made in the below dates. Other situations may develop during the grazing season which requires changes to these instructions. If this becomes necessary or if you cannot comply with some part of these instructions The District Ranger must approve any changes in the planned use.

Invasive weeds are becoming a serious threat to the welfare of our rangelands. Your assistance is needed to identify new outbreaks of weed populations and to prevent the establishment of weeds on the forest. Pay particular attention to areas where stock are concentrated such as loading/unloading areas, water developments, and salting areas. We have implemented a Noxious Weed Free Hay order on the forest. This will require any hay that is brought onto the National Forest to be certified free from noxious weeds. All livestock entering the National Forest are recommended to be fed Certified Noxious Weed Free Forage for at least 2 days prior to entering the Forest.

BILLING:

Grazing fees remained unchanged from last year. The fee is now \$1.69 per head month.

IMPROVEMENTS:

Range improvements listed in part three of your grazing permit must be maintained before cattle enter the allotments. The maintenance standards listed in part three of your term permit must be followed when maintaining the improvements. As you're doing water trough maintenance please install wildlife ramps in all troughs that currently don't have them. We have several new ramps completed at the Paradise Valley Ranger Station. Please let Dave Kern or Boyd know when you are going to pick them up and they will make sure they are available.

PERMITTEE INSTRUCTIONS:

Dead livestock must be moved at least 100 yards from water, roads, and trails. Place salt at least ¼ mile from water sources and in areas lightly grazed to encourage an even distribution of utilization on the range. In situations where terrain does not allow proper placement of salt, please contact Boyd and he will determine a suitable location with your input.

REQUIRED REPORTING:

Actual use and range improvement maintenance forms have been included for you to complete and return at the end of the grazing season. Please return the forms following the 2015 grazing season by November 30, 2015.

STANDARDS AND GUIDES:

We are experiencing **drought** conditions, this summer it will be essential that you keep in mind that timing for moving your livestock is determined by utilization or actual use. It is important not to put additional stress on the vegetation by over utilization/grazing. Please keep in mind that if the range does not receive more moisture to support the time frames discussed the livestock may need to come off early this year.

You are responsible for determining when allowable use has been reached and for moving your cattle to the next pasture or off the allotment when allowable use has been reached. The Forest Service is responsible for monitoring your compliance with allowable use standards. If you need assistance determining use levels or locating key areas, please contact Boyd. All riparian areas on the allotments are considered key areas.

RIPARIAN SITES:

Category 1 Riparian Areas	Key Species	Percent Utilization
N/A	Riparian grasses and sedges	45%
Category 2 Riparian Areas	Key Species	Percent Utilization
Top half of Alkali Creek, South Fork Dutch John Creek, Road Creek, Deep Creek, Round Correl Creek, Middle Fork Round Correl Creek, East Fork Round Corral Creek & Martin Creek	Riparian grasses and sedges	45%
Category 3 Riparian Areas	Key Species	Percent Utilization
Box Canyon Creek & bottom half of Alkali Creek	Riparian grasses and sedges	60%
Category 4 Riparian Areas	Key Species	Percent Utilization
Harvey Creek & Picket Corral Creek	Riparian grasses and sedges	60%
Category 5 Riparian Areas	Key Species	Percent Utilization
Antelope Creek, Spring Creek, Coal Pit Creek, Spring City Canyon/Dry Creek & Buttermilk Creek	Riparian grasses and sedges	65%
Uplands	Mt. Brome, bluegrass, needlegrass, squirreltail	65%
Upland Browse	Serviceberry, bitterbrush, snowberry	50% of current year's growth
Riparian Browse	Willow, aspen, cottonwood	35% of current year's growth

LIVESTOCK MANAGEMENT

Type of Rotation: Rest Rotation.

REST UNITS: Lye Creek will be possibly rested if needed it will be authorized to be grazed.

COORDINATION & COOPERATION:

If you spot a wild fire, report it immediately to the interagency dispatch center in Winnemucca, NV at (775) 623-3444 or 1-800-535-6076.

MAPS, FORMS & ATTACHMENTS:

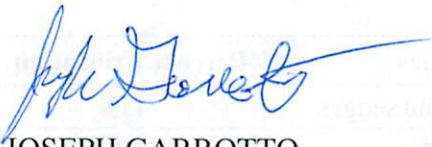
Allotment map, signature page, actual use and permit maintenance forms have been attached.

As a reminder, approval of requests for permittee convenience nonuse is not automatic and the authorized officer should discuss the reasons for the nonuse request with the permittee.

Approval of a request for permittee convenience non-use must be in writing by the authorized officer. Full or partial permittee convenience nonuse may be approved by the authorized officer for no more than three consecutive years and not more than four years in any ten year period.

If you have any questions or concerns this grazing season, please call Boyd at (775) 623-5025 x 119.

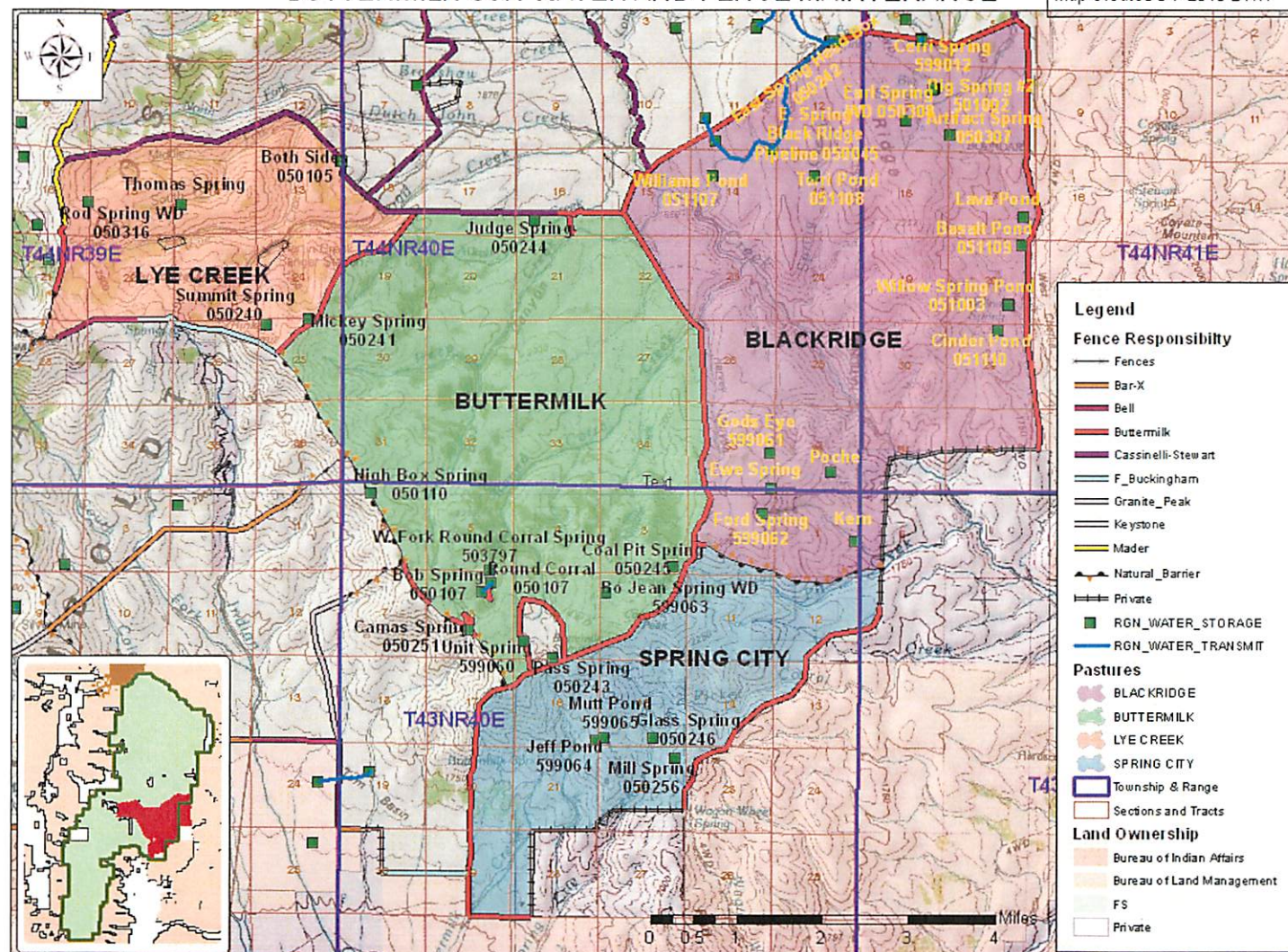
Sincerely,

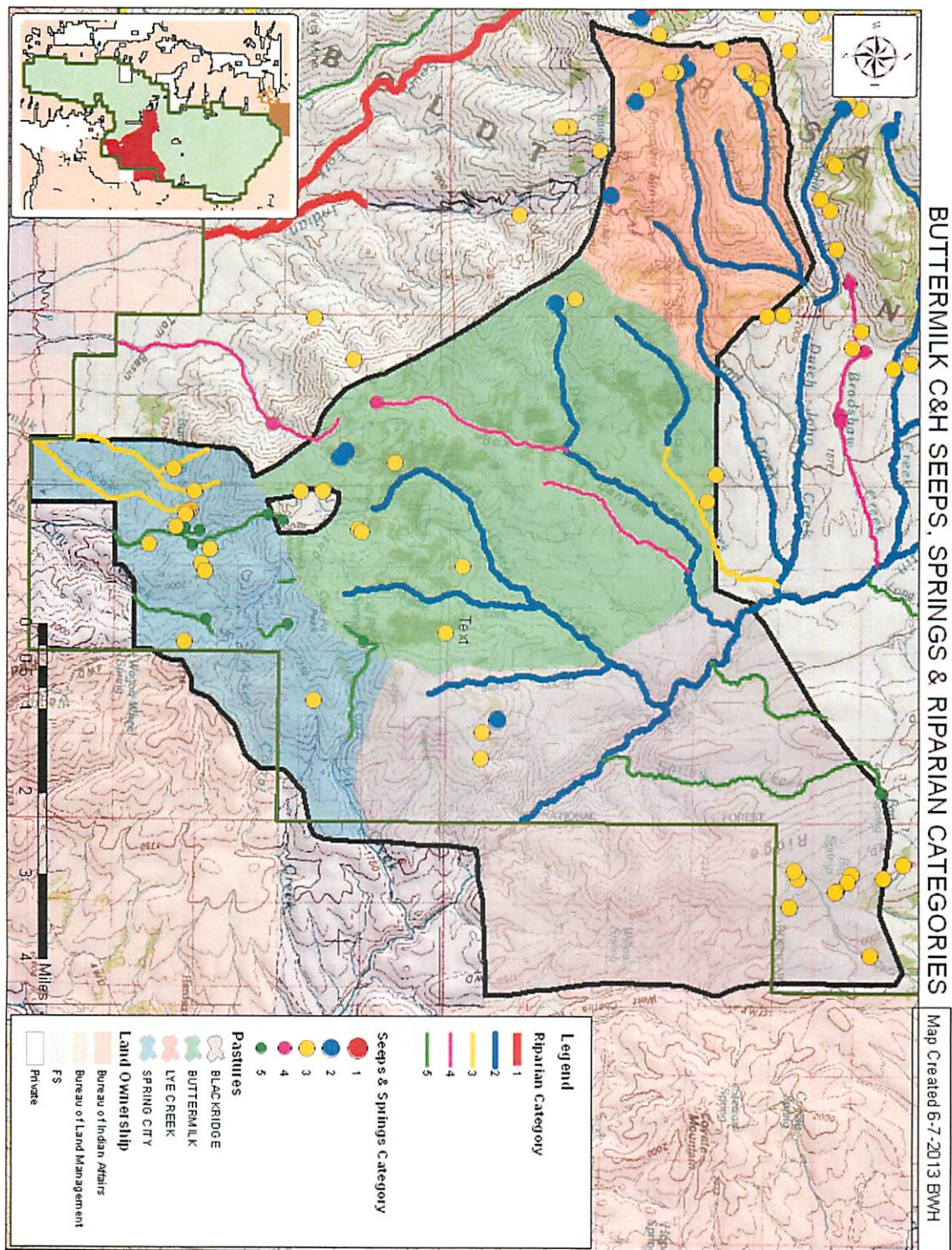


JOSEPH GARROTTO
District Ranger

BUTTERMILK C&H WATER AND FENCE MAINTENANCE

Map Created 6-7-2013 BWH





ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

2015

Buttermilk C&H Allotment

SANTA ROSA RANGER DISTRICT

Recommended by: _____ Date: _____
Rangeland Management Specialist

Accepted by: _____ Date: _____
Permittee

Approved by: _____ Date: _____
District Ranger

Please sign and date this cover sheet and return to my office. Upon signature by the District Ranger, these Annual Operating Instructions are hereby made a part of your Term Grazing Permit.

As permittee, my signature on these Annual Operating Instructions certifies that there is no change to my permitted livestock or base property ownership as described in my grazing permit.